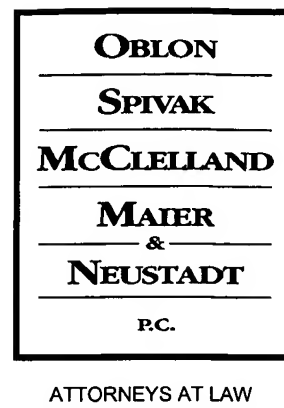




Docket No.: 242589US2RD



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/659,299

Applicants: Susumu HASHIMOTO, et al.

Filing Date: September 11, 2003

For: MAGNETORESISTANCE EFFECT ELEMENT,
MAGNETIC HEAD, AND MAGNETIC
REPRODUCING APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 2653

Examiner: Watko, J.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

ELECTION

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters

Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)

(703) 413-2220 (fax)

DOCKET NO: 242589US2RD



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SUSUMU HASHIMOTO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: WATKO, J.
SERIAL NO: 10/659,299 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 11, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2653
FOR: MAGNETORESISTANCE EFFECT :
ELEMENT, MAGNETIC HEAD, AND
MAGNETIC REPRODUCING
APPARATUS

ELECTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the election requirement dated November 25, 2005, Applicants elect without traverse Group I, Claims 1-15 and 19-20, drawn to MR elements, a magnetic head, and a magnetic reproducing apparatus, classified in class 360, subclass 324.1 for further examination on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected invention.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of claims 1-15 and 19-20 is believed to be in order and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

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